

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/600,514

Examiner

Lamson D Nguyen

Applicant(s)

OTSUKI, KOICHI

Art Unit

2861

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment dated 11/03/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4,6-11,14,17-27,30,31,33-36,38-46 and 48-93.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 23 June 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 06/23/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

- The primary reasons for allowance for claims 1-4, 6-11, 14, 31, 33-36, 38-42, 53, 65 are the inclusion of the limitations of a printing method comprising the steps of executing regular monochromatic mode printing whereby sub-scans are performed in a first sub-scan mode, and dots are formed along the main scan lines in the monochromatic area, executing lower-edge monochromatic mode printing whereby sub-scans are performed in a second sub-scan mode in which a maximum subscan increment is less than a maximum subscan feed increment of the first subscan mode, and dots are formed along the main scan lines in the monochromatic area in the vicinity of a border with the color area, and executing color mode printing. It is these limitations, alone or combined as claimed, that have not been taught, found, or suggested by prior art.
- The primary reasons for allowance for claims 17-27, 30, 43-46, 48-52, 54 are the inclusion of the limitations of a printing method comprising the steps of executing regular color mode printing whereby subscans are performed in a first subscan mode, and dots are formed along the main scan lines in the color area, executing lower-edge color mode printing whereby subscans are performed in a second subscan mode in which a maximum

subscan feed increment is less than a maximum subscan increment of the first subscan mode, and dots are formed along the main scan lines in the color area in the vicinity of the border with the monochromatic area, and executing monochromatic printing. It is these limitations, alone or combined as claimed, that have not been taught, found, or suggested by prior art.

- The primary reasons for allowance for claims 55-64, 83, 76-82, and 92 are the inclusion of the limitations of a printing method comprising the steps of executing monochromatic mode printing in the monochromatic area, executing upper-edge color mode printing whereby subscans are performed in a first subscan mode, and dots are formed along the main scan lines in the color area in the vicinity of the border with the monochromatic area, and executing regular color mode printing whereby subscans are performed in a second subscan mode in which a maximum subscan feed increment is greater than a maximum subscan feed of the first subscan mode, and dots are formed along the main scan lines in the color area. It is these limitations, alone or combined as claimed, that have not been taught, found, or suggested by prior art.
- The primary reasons for allowance for claims 66-75, 84-91, and 93 are the inclusion of the limitations of a printing method comprising the steps of executing color mode printing, executing

upper-edge monochromatic mode printing whereby subscans are performed in a first subscan mode, and dots are formed along the main scan lines in the color area in the vicinity of the border with the color area, and executing regular monochromatic mode printing whereby subscans are performed in a second subscan mode in which a maximum subscan feed increment is greater than a maximum subscan feed of the first subscan mode, and dots are formed along the main scan lines in the monochromatic area. It is these limitations, alone or combined as claimed, that have not been taught, found, or suggested by prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lamson D Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-2259. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Talbott can be reached on 571-272-1934. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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LAMSON NGUYEN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
01/19/05